

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 1898, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. May 9, 1898? My darling Alec:

What did you go away for? You could have staid here with infinitely more comfort I am sure than you are having now. Think of having to hang around that fearfully stupid Truro all day. I hope you are properly repenting the haste in which you left your wife and daughter. To be sure the snow I so proudly telegraphed you of was so microscopic that I couldn't see it, but the fact remains that it is cold enough, for any one short of an Esquimo and I never heard that you claimed to be that.

Don't you regret being out of reach of the "Extras" and Yellow Papers? We had three "Posts" yesterday. It was the worst swindle because one contained nothing more than the news that a cable had been received from Dewey, contents not yet deciphered! It's really astonishing how flat the greatest sensations fall now that you are not here to stir us all up and describe things as if you were one of the sailors on the ships yourself, or better still, a newspaper correspondent. I suppose before this reaches you there will be news from Sampson. What will it be? I know however I won't be so excited one way or the other as if you were at hand and I shall miss you.

We have done absolutely nothing since you left. It has been so cold and rainy that we haven't wanted to leave our own fireside.

Your telegram has come, or rather it came last night. I hope Mr. Ellis going on won't interfere with your walking up the mountain I am sure that just a leisurely walk to the laboratory isn't all you need.

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Today the sun is out brightly for the first time in a week, but the n air is deliciously fresh and cool. Did you forget that twenty years ago yesterday your first baby lay in my arms? I think Elsie missed your telegram. I will telegraph you whenever exciting news comes up.

Ever yours, Mabel —